

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1125
By Casada

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate David Justice upon winning the 2004 National High School Chess Championship.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those young people who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as pillars of excellence in a chosen endeavor; and

WHEREAS, one such young person is David Justice, who won the 2004 National High School Chess Championship and earned the right to be called the "Top High School Chess Player in the Nation"; and

WHEREAS, a sophomore at Page High School, David traveled with his team to the championship tournament in Dallas, Texas, on April 16th-18th; and

WHEREAS, over 1,200 players from 38 states competed for this prestigious honor, including individuals from the chess bastion of New York and from private, elite academies across the United States; and

WHEREAS, in addition to earning the title amid this steep competition, David also earned a win against the younger brother of the youngest grand master in the history of chess; David won six matches and tied one match in the tournament; and

WHEREAS, the National High School Chess Championship is the most difficult scholastic tournament in the United States; each player receives two hours to complete their moves, making each game last four hours or less; and

WHEREAS, David competed in seven rounds to earn his title, meaning that he played 28 hours of chess over the tournament weekend; and

WHEREAS, David Justice was awarded a full four-year scholarship to the University of Texas at Dallas; David still has two more years of high school to contemplate this offer to attend

one of the top chess universities in the nation, where he would play for the team and travel to international tournaments; and

WHEREAS, David has compiled an impressive list of accomplishments this season, capped off by the National Title; he placed third in the Action Nationals (30-minute game) and third nationally in the Sophomore Scholastic Division; and

WHEREAS, David's skillful play and masterful maneuvering led the Page High School Varsity Chess Team to a fourth-place finish in the Open Division of the 2004 National High School Chess Tournament; and

WHEREAS, although not among the favorites at the beginning of the tournament, David Justice managed to etch his name indelibly into the history books with his remarkable performance; and

WHEREAS, his achievement merits special recognition by this General Assembly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the 2004 National High School Chess Champion, David Justice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we join with his school, friends, and family in celebrating his remarkable achievements, and we extend our best wishes for every success in his future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.